**Basic Grammar Diagnostic 1**

1. **Adjectives and Adverbs**   
  
Select the answer that correctly completes the sentence.  
  
We should serve dinner before 2:00 p.m.; \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, we'll not be able to make the kickoff.

a) however

b) furthermore

c) otherwise

d) thus

2. **Adjectives and Adverbs**   
  
Select the answer that correctly completes the sentence.  
  
Of the many turkeys I have roasted, the smoked turkey was the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ one.

a) best

b) better

c) most good

3. **Adjectives and Adverbs**   
  
Select the answer that correctly completes the sentence.  
  
Grandpa has a background as a chef and can cook a meal really \_\_\_\_\_\_ .

a) good

b) well

4. **Adjectives and Adverbs**   
  
Select the answer that correctly completes the sentence.  
  
Despite her inexperience, Aunt Beulah did surprisingly \_\_\_\_\_\_ in providing the holiday dinner.

a) good

b) well

5. **Articles**   
  
Select *True* or *False*.  
  
The following sentence uses articles **correctly**:   
  
The San Antonio Spurs are always strong contenders in the race for the NBA championship.

a) True

b) False

6. **Articles**   
  
Select *True* or *False*.  
  
The following sentence uses articles **correctly**:   
  
Fans know the Tim Duncan very well.

a) True

b) False

7. **Articles**   
  
Select *True* or *False*.  
  
The following sentence uses articles **correctly**:   
  
When the Spurs play badly, the game looks like an horror movie in slow motion.

a) True

b) False

8. **Articles**   
  
Select *True* or *False*.  
  
The following sentence uses articles **correctly**:   
  
MVP Tim Duncan is widely known for a athletic physique, but not for a effervescent personality.

a) True

b) False

9. **Conjunctions**   
  
Select the answer that correctly completes the sentence.  
  
The common first love is a minor mental infection caused by temporary blindness; no pill \_\_\_\_\_ "shot" will cure it.

a) or,

b) , or

c) or

10. **Conjunctions**   
  
Select the answer that correctly completes the sentence.  
  
Teenage first loves are highly contagious \_\_\_\_\_ if someone you know has a caught a first love, try not to use the same websites, magazines, or cell phones.

a) so,

b) ; so,

c) , so

11. **Conjunctions**   
  
Select the answer that correctly completes the sentence.  
  
Common "puppy love" may last only a few days \_\_\_\_\_ as long as two weeks.

a) or

b) , or

c) or,

12. **Conjunctions**   
  
Select the answer that correctly completes the sentence.  
  
A talk with an older friend, sibling, or parent may ease the symptoms \_\_\_\_\_ first loves usually subside when rational thought returns, whether or not you take someone's advice.

a) , but,

b) but

c) , but

13. **Indirect and Direct Quotations/Reported Speech**  
  
Select the sentence that uses quotation marks and its associated punctuation **correctly**.

a) Many students who commute to college believe that the amount of time they spend in transit has a marked effect on their lives.

b) Many students who commute to college believe that "The amount of time they spend in transit has a marked effect on their lives."

14. **Indirect and Direct Quotations/Reported Speech**  
  
Select the sentence that uses quotation marks and its associated punctuation **correctly**.

a) "It's always congested in this city, the drive takes about forty minutes, and parking on campus is always a gamble," states a professional returning for an advanced degree.

b) It's always congested in this city, the drive takes about forty minutes, and parking on campus is always a gamble, states a professional returning for an advanced degree.

15. **Indirect and Direct Quotations/Reported Speech**  
  
Select the sentence that uses quotation marks and its associated punctuation **correctly**.

a) A nursing student complains, I walk to the bus stop, take a bus downtown, then another bus to campus. By the time I reach class, I'm exhausted!

b) A nursing student complains, "I walk to the bus stop, take a bus downtown, then another bus to campus. By the time I reach class, I'm exhausted!"

16. **Indirect and Direct Quotations/Reported Speech**  
  
Select the sentence that uses quotation marks and its associated punctuation **correctly**.

a) A computer student who had recently moved back to the dorms from an apartment was asked, "How she liked living on campus?"

b) A computer student who had recently moved back to the dorms from an apartment was asked how she liked living on campus.

17. **Negatives and Double Negatives**   
  
Select *True* or *False*.  
  
The following group of words is incorrect because it contains a double negative:   
  
My sister's niece hasn't read none of the novels on the school list.

a) True

b) False

18. **Negatives and Double Negatives**   
  
Select *True* or *False*.  
  
The following group of words is incorrect because it contains a double negative:   
  
Jill was not dissatisfied with her results on the art project.

a) True

b) False

19. **Negatives and Double Negatives**  
  
Select *True* or *False*.  
  
The following group of words is incorrect because it contains a double negative:   
  
The detective said sarcastically, "It's not that I don't believe you, Sharkey."

a) True

b) False

20. **Negatives and Double Negatives**   
  
Select *True* or *False*.  
  
The following group of words is incorrect because it contains a double negative:   
  
My folks don't hardly never see Marianne no more.

a) True

b) False

21. **Nouns**  
  
Select the sentence that has **no** noun errors. If both sentences contain errors, select *Neither choice is correct*.

a) Compared to adults who consume typical American food, those who follow the South Beach Diet® appear to have better resistance to many disease.

b) Compared to adults who consume typical American food, those who follow the South Beach Diet® appear to have better resistance to many diseases.

c) Neither choice is correct.

22. **Nouns**  
  
Select the sentence that has **no** noun errors. If both sentences contain errors, select *Neither choice is correct*.

a) The South Beach Diet® stresses no fruits, no grains, few beans, few vegetables, and lots of protein for the first two weeks.

b) The South Beach Diet® stresses no fruits, no grains, few beans, a vegetable, and lots of protein for the first two weeks.

c) Neither choice is correct.

23. **Nouns**  
  
Which noun correctly completes the sentence?  
  
Many people aren't aware of how \_\_\_\_\_\_ weight they gain year after year.

a) many

b) much

c) Neither choice is correct.

24. **Nouns**  
  
Which noun correctly completes the sentence?   
  
The healthiest plan is to eat as \_\_\_\_\_\_ fast food as possible and to eat more fresh foods to avoid becoming overweight.

a) little

b) few

c) Neither choice is correct.

25. **Participles**   
  
Type the correct form of the verb in parentheses.  
  
The cooking class just prepared a **satisfying** seven-course French meal. (satisfy)

26. **Participles**  
  
Type the correct form of the verb in parentheses.  
  
Indoor air is **thought** (think) to be healthier than urban/industrial outdoor air by many consumers.

27. **Participles**  
  
Type the correct form of the verb in parentheses.  
  
Recent government studies that show the unhealthy quality of indoor air have actually **taken** (take) consumers by surprise.

28. **Participles**  
  
Type the correct form of the verb in parentheses.  
  
Consumers who purchase air purifiers should ask themselves whether they have really **gotten** (get) a product that truly cleans the air.

29. **Prepositions**   
  
Which of the **boldfaced** words is a preposition?  
  
**An** important mental characteristic shared **by** pessimists is **that** they usually expect **negative** outcomes.

a) an

b) by

c) that

d) negative

30. **Prepositions**   
  
Which of the **boldfaced** words is a preposition?  
  
**A** **particularly** destructive form **of** pessimism **is** a hopelessness that leads to clinical depression.

a) a

b) particularly

c) of

d) is

31. **Prepositions**   
  
Which of the **boldfaced** words is a preposition?  
  
**Many** college students exercise **to** overcome feelings **of** depression.

a) many

b) to

**c**) of

32. **Prepositions**   
  
Which of the **boldfaced** words is a preposition?  
  
**This** oppressive pessimism **may**, in turn, increase students' risk of illness and **even** subtract years **from** their lives.

a) this

b) may

c) even

d) from

33. **Pronouns**   
  
Select the correct pronoun to complete the sentence.  
  
I wish I were as relaxed as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about the upcoming midterm in Economics.

a) her

b) she

c) herself

d) hers

34. **Pronouns**   
  
Select the correct pronoun to complete the sentence.  
  
My roommates, Estelle and Blanche, had dreamed of starting \_\_\_\_\_ own online quilting business since \_\_\_\_\_ were kids.

a) her / she

b) their / they

c) their / she

d) her / they

35. **Pronouns**   
  
Select the correct pronoun to complete the sentence.  
  
Algebra, a difficult subject for most students, was developed in ancient Mayan civilizations \_\_\_\_\_ also practiced medicine and even surgery.

a) that

b) which

c) who

d) , which

36. **Pronouns**   
  
Select the correct pronoun to complete the sentence.  
  
We quizzed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by posing the review questions at the end of the chapters in the Biology textbook.

a) ourselves

b) myself

c) us

d) , ourslves

37. **Verb Form**   
  
Select the answer that **correctly** completes the sentence.  
  
College athletic programs force participants \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ junk foods, a change that will undoubtedly allow them to perform better.

a) cutting out

b) to cut out

38. **Verb Form**   
  
Select the answer that **correctly** completes the sentence.  
  
If the talented volleyball player \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to accept the revised terms, she could sign the scholarship offer today.

a) is

b)was

c)were

d) will be

39. **Verb Form**   
  
Select the answer that **correctly** completes the sentence.  
  
The alumni association organized a party for the new basketball players but \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (call off) at the last minute.

a) called it off

b) called it

c) called off

d) , calling it off

40. **Verb Form**   
  
Select the answer that **correctly** completes the sentence.  
  
Imagine how college sports will change in this century if inventions and coaching techniques \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ even more technologically sophisticated.

a) become

b) became

c) becomes

d) will be

41. **Verb Tenses**  
  
Select the sentence that uses verb tenses **correctly**.  
  
Why is Lindsey buying another dress? She's already owning seven others.

a) Why is Lindsey buying another dress?

b) She's already owning seven others.

42. **Verb Tenses**  
  
Select the sentence that uses verb tenses **correctly**.

a) Although many theories exist, the reason for Amelia Earhart's disappearance remains a mystery.

b) Although many theories exist, the reason for Amelia Earhart's disappearance is remaining a mystery.

c) Although many theories are existing, the reason for Amelia Earhart's disappearance remains a mystery.

d) Although many theories exist, the reason for Amelia Earhart's disappearance remained a mystery.

43. **Verb Tenses**  
  
Select the sentence that uses verb tenses **correctly**.

a) However, plausible solutions are proposed recently in light of new evidence.

b) However, plausible solutions have been proposed recently in light of new evidence.

c) However, plausible solutions had been proposed recently in light of new evidence.

d) However, plausible solutions will be proposed recently in light of new evidence.

44. **Verb Tenses**  
  
Select the sentence that uses verb tenses **correctly**.

a) Without sophisticated aviation computers, most pilots would have strayed off course, making it difficult, if not impossible, for Earhart to survived.

b) Without sophisticated aviation computers, most pilots would have strayed off course, making it difficult, if not impossible, for Earhart surviving.

c) Without sophisticated aviation computers, most pilots would have strayed off course, making it difficult, if not impossible, for Earhart to survive.

d) Without sophisticated aviation computers, most pilots would have strayed off course, making it difficult, if not impossible, for Earhart survive.

45. **Verbs**   
  
Select the choice with **no** errors.

a) Students who do not get enough sleep had prematurely experience age-related complaints, including arthritis, osteoporosis, and anemia.

b) Students who do not get enough sleep prematurely experienced age-related complaints, including arthritis, osteoporosis, and anemia.

46. **Verbs**   
  
Select the choice with **no** errors.

a) I don't sleep as much as my parents, but I don't want to turn them into when I reach their age.

b) I don't sleep as much as my parents, but I don't want to turn into them when I reach their age.

47. **Verbs**  
  
Which choice accurately explains the italicized verbs in this sentence?  
  
Parents *have sometimes contributed* to sleep deprivation habits by scheduling many extra curricular activities for their children in the high school years.

a) *Have* is a helping verb. *Sometimes* is a helping verb. *Contributed* is the main verb.

b) *Have* is a helping verb. *Contributed* is the main verb.

c) *Have* is a helping verb. *Sometimes* is the main verb.

d) *Sometimes* is a helping verb. *Contributed* is the main verb.

48. **Verbs**  
  
Select the correct verb for this sentence.  
  
After studying all afternoon, Lance \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ down to take a short nap, and when he woke up, it was morning.

a) laid

b) lied

c) lay

49. **Active and Passive Voice**   
  
Decide whether the sentence is written in the **active voice** or **passive voice**. Select the correct description.  
  
Fireworks have been designed and produced throughout Asia for thousands of years.

a) active voice

b) passive voice

50. **Active and Passive Voice**   
  
Decide whether the sentence is written in the **active voice** or **passive voice**. Select the correct description.  
  
Firecrackers and sparklers were developed in China as many as 5,000 years ago.

a) active voice

b) passive voice

51. **Active and Passive Voice**   
  
Decide whether the sentence is written in the **active voice** or **passive voice**. Select the correct description.  
  
Currently, fireworks are being enjoyed by more than a billion people around the world.

a) active voice

b) passive voice

52. **Active and Passive Voice**   
  
Decide whether the sentence is written in the **active voice** or **passive voice**. Select the correct description.  
  
Foolish people sometimes ignore common safety rules and ignite fireworks, such as bottle rockets or roman candles, while holding them in their hands.

a) active voice

b) passive voice

53. **Parts of Speech**   
  
Identify the word(s) in **boldface**.  
  
To film historians and movie lovers, pioneer filmmaker D.W. Griffith **will** always **be** the master of silent film.

a) adjective

b) adverb

c) verb

d) noun

